Under utilisation of funds under ARWSP in Orissa

2003. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government of Orissa is not able to utilize the Central Assistance under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) because the State could not provide 25% matching share for replacement of defunct and damaged tubewells and shallow tubewells in cyclone and flood affected areas of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA):

Central Assistance under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) is provided to the States, *Inter-alia,* for coverage of rural habitations with drinking water supply facilities. The States are required to provide matching share under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) in rural water supply activities. As per the information furnished by the Government of Orissa, they have utilized an amount of Rs. 3262.38 lakh out of an amount of Rs. 7663.75 lakh of the ARWSP funds available with them during 1999-2000. Likewise, the expenditure reported under the State sector MNP during 1999-2000 in respect of Orissa is Rs. 4467.06 lakh out of a provision of Rs. 6111.21 lakhs made under MNP for drinking water supply activities. States can utilise upto 15% of the funds released every year under the ARWSP for operation and maintenance of assets created, subject to ceiling of matching grant under the State sector MNP.

Closure of Orissa Textile Mills

2004. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Orissa Textile Mills (OTM) has been closed down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to revive that textile mill; and